IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for facilitating the exchange of data between one or more users and a web service via one or more instant messaging clients, comprising:

a processor that receives and processes a user command from a user of [[an]] a first instant messaging client and generates a web service command corresponding to the user command;

a database that stores information linking the user command to a web service command format;

a web services engine that sends the web service command to the web service to cause transmission of information from the web service to at least one other user via a second instant messaging client.

2. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the web services engine is configured to receive[[s]] a message from the web service in response to the web service command.

3. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the web services engine is ~~used~~ configured to locate a web services description language file.

4. Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the web services engine is configured to retrieve[[s]] a web service address.

5. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the web services engine is configured to retrieve[[s]] the web service command format.

6. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to link[[s]] the user command to a web service description language file.

7. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to link[[s]] the user command to the web service and the web service command format.

8. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the database is configured to store[[s]] user information, the user information comprises at least one of user identification ~~and~~ or user password.

9. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the database is configured to store[[s]] user privileges information.

10. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the information linking the user command to a web service command format stored in the database comprises a web services description language file location.

11. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the information linking the user command to a web service command format stored in the database comprises the web service's address.

12. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the information linking the user command to a web service command format stored in the database comprises a web service description language file name.

13. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the processor is configured to use[[s]] the information linking the user command to a web service command format stored in the database to generate the web service command.

14. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the web service is associated with an enterprise system.

15. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein the web service is associated with a legacy system.

16. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, further comprising a security and provisioning engine[[,]] and the security and provisioning engine is configured to retrieve[[s]] security information.

17. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 16, wherein the security information ~~having~~ includes user privileges information.

18. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 17, wherein the user privileges information is used for accessing at least one of an enterprise system or a legacy system.

19. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the system interfaces with a remote database including user security information.

20. (Original) The system according to claim 19, wherein the remote database including the user security information includes a directory that has information relating to user privileges.

21. (Currently Amended) A method that facilitates the exchange of data between one or more users and one or more web services via one or more instant messaging clients, comprising the steps of:

receiving a user command from a user of [[an]] a first instant messaging client;

linking the user command to a web service command format, where the web service command format is associated with a web service;

generating a corresponding web service command based on the web service command format;

sending the generated corresponding web service command to the web service; and

transmitting information from the web service in response to the web service command to at least one other user via a second instant messaging client.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein linking of the user command to a web service command format comprises linking the user command to a web service description language file.

23. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein linking of the user command to a web service command format comprises locating the web service's address.

24. (Original) The method according to claim 23, wherein the web service address is a URL address.

25. (Original) The method according to claim 21, further comprising receiving a message from the web service.

26. (Original) The method according to claim 25, wherein the message received from the web service is a response message.

27. (Original) The method according to claim 25, further comprising sending the message from the web service to the one or more users.

28. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the web service is associated with an enterprise system.

29. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein the web service is associated with a legacy system.

30. (Original) The method according to claim 21, further comprising storing user information.

31. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 30, wherein the stored user information includes user command information ~~is~~ for at least one of the users.

32. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 31, wherein the stored user command information ~~stored~~ for the at least one of the users includes information linking the user command to the web service command format.

33. (Original) The method according to claim 21, further comprising parsing security information to determine a user's access rights to the web service.

34. (Original) The method according to claim 33, wherein the security information is stored in a database.

35. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 34, wherein the database ~~having~~ includes a directory including information relating to user privileges for accessing enterprise or legacy systems.

36. (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine to perform method steps of exchanging data between one or more users and a web service via one or more instant messaging clients, the method steps comprising:

receiving an instant messaging message created by a user using [[an]] a first instant messaging client;

identifying a web service description language file associated with the instant messaging message;

identifying a web service listed in the web service description language file that is linked to the instant messaging message;

sending a web service message that is associated with the instant messaging message to the web service according to information provided in the web service description language file; and

transmitting information from the web service in response to the web service message to at least one other user via a second instant messaging client.

37. (Currently Amended) The program storage device according to claim 36, wherein the web service message ~~having~~ includes a web service command.

38. (Original) The program storage device according to claim 36, further comprising receiving a message from a web service.

39. (Original) The program storage device according to claim 38, wherein the message from the web service is in response to the web service message.

40. (Original) The program storage device according to claim 38, wherein the message from the web service is forwarded to one or more users.

41. (Original) The program storage device according to claim 36, further comprising storing user information.

42. (Previously Presented) The program storage device according to claim 36, wherein the web service is associated with at least one of an enterprise system or a legacy system.

43. (Original) The program storage device according to claim 36, wherein the instant messaging message comprises a user command.

44. (Previously Presented) The program storage device according to claim 36, wherein the web service is associated with at least one of an enterprise system or a legacy system.

45. (Currently Amended) A system for facilitating the exchange of data between one or more instant messaging clients and a web service, comprising:

a message processor means, the message processing means for receiving and processing a user command from [[an]] a first instant messaging client and generating a corresponding web service command based on the user command;

a storage means for storing information that links the user command to format of the corresponding web service command ;

a communication means for accessing a web services description language file; and

a means for transmitting information from the web service in response to the web service command to at least one other user via a second instant messaging client.

46. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 45, wherein the communication means communicates with the at least one web service.

47. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 45, wherein the corresponding web service command is generated by using the stored linking information that links the user command to the format of the corresponding web service command.

48. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 45, wherein the web service is associated with at least one of an enterprise system or a legacy system.

49. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 45, wherein the message processor means is configured to store ~~for storing~~ user privileges information.

50. (Omitted)

51. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 45, wherein the message processor means is configured to parse ~~for parsing~~ user privileges information.

52. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 45, wherein the system interfaces with a database having security information.

53. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the user directly transmits the information received from the web service to ~~with~~ the at least one other user via an instant messaging client.

54. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the means for transmitting information from the web service includes ~~is~~ the web service engine.

55. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 53, wherein the user selects at least one other user to transmit the information received from the web service to.

56. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 9, where the system includes a filter ~~that~~ configured to prevent[[s]] users without user privileges from viewing the information.

57. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the web service initiates contact with the user without prompting from the user.

58. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein the means for transmitting information from the web service is the instant messaging client.

59. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the means for transmitting information from the web service ~~is~~ includes the processor.

60. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 45, wherein the means for transmitting information from the web service ~~is~~ includes the instant messaging client.

61. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 45, wherein the means for transmitting information from the web service ~~is~~ includes the message processor means.

62. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 45, wherein the means for transmitting information from the web service ~~is~~ includes the web service.

63. (New) The system according to claim 9, wherein the means determines, in accordance with the user privileges information, which user should receive the information from the web service in response to the web service command.